

The Times-Dispatch

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THURSDAY, APRIL 3, 1913.

WHY YOUNG MEN ARE INDIFFERENT.

The effort to make young men register and vote is excellent, but it is superficial. It attempts to remedy a bad condition by attacking the results rather than the cause. The Times-Dispatch trusts that the present agitation will bring about more effective measures to get young men into politics, both as voters and as public servants. To do this it is necessary to find out why young men are indifferent about civic duties, and then to impress upon them one single fact. That is: Their own welfare and happiness and that of their families depend upon how they are governed.

The big reason for neglect of civic duties by young men is that they are interested in other things. They are chiefly concerned with making a living, establishing themselves in business, getting married and raising a family in comfort. They are intensely self-centered. They want to succeed. The immediate and pressing needs of business and family obscure other interests. Politics seem remote from daily life.

Most young men are running a race with the hills at the end of the month. What they do not realize is that the clock of the hills and their number, as well as the income or salary that must meet them, depends upon efficient and economical government.

For example, the gas bill depends upon how well the city gas plant is conducted. The doctor's bill depends in part upon the sanitation and health measures enforced by the community. If the children have to be doctored and nursed for diseases that result from bad government, the purse of the young man is hit. Yet the remedy is in his own hands. He can control the city if he wants. What he pays for electric light and power, for street car service, for having his ashes and garbage removed, for fire protection and for cleaning the dust out of his house, all depend upon how city business is run.

Again, his own commercial or industrial enterprises depend at bottom upon what sort of city he works in. He is not independent of local municipal affairs. The rent he pays for his office or store or dwelling right now is being held up by the failure to annex more territory. His factory is handicapped by slipshod government. The streets that handicap his wagons and trucks and wear them out, are due partly to inefficient government. His State tax burden is increased by the fee system, unjust tax laws, useless officers and costly government. Of every cent a young man earns or spends, some part is the invisible tax paid for bad government. It may amount to \$10 in \$100. Of all others, the young man can least afford to contribute this to inefficiency. Selfishness, if no higher motive, must sooner or later drive him into politics to protect himself and his wife and children.

MORGAN AND ART.

Of the qualities that make Morgan great none is so interesting as his princely devotion to gathering objects of art. The power he held over men's labors and lives has vanished with his own passing. The results of his organizing genius will last only until the growth of the nation and its people can change them for better. But the influence of his collections and the love of art fostered by their presence in America will endure long. Already the disposition of his treasures of beauty is raising more serious consideration than the disposition of his treasures of gold. The name of Morgan, the collector, will be remembered when the name of Morgan, the financier, is lost in time.

The analysis of Mr. Morgan's passion for rare, ancient and beautiful products of man's skill and genius would make a great novel. He was not a creator in the artist's sense; he was not even a great connoisseur. He was a magnificent buyer. The pride of ownership and the desire to serve the country he believed in inspired him to gather from all countries and many ages the vases of beauty. He was not an amateur, a lover, who chose with delicate perceptions and gained joy from his own sensitiveness. Much of his buying was done on the advice of experts, and in huge masses that furnished any intimate care for each specimen. The collections are said not to shadow forth a single personality pursuing some ideal of beauty in a thousand shapes. It seems doubtful whether the grace of lines and the delicate shadings and tints of color pleased his senses in themselves. He enjoyed the environment of superlative art in huge bulk.

The pathetic fact remains that Mr. Morgan did little service to art alive. He was not devoted to the products of any modern school. The few moderns he encouraged were not of the first rank. His gifts to the Metropolitan Museum were of old pictures and statues, not new creations. He was not, as has been said, like Lorenzo the Magnificent. For Lorenzo was not

a collector of antiques. He was a patron of artists. He made his age famous as did the other noble patrons of the Renaissance, not by hoarding up what the past had handed down, but by cherishing the living gifts of creators, who were making beauty to hand down to later times. We couple no creative genius with Mr. Morgan's name, except the dead.

For this reason we think the influence of his gifts, that will come to the museums, will not be as potent as he thought. Young genius can only learn technique by studying the masters. It cannot get the fire and passion and experience and suffering and wisdom that bring forth great pictures and immortal poetry. The people may gain a finer appreciation and the love of art be so cultivated, but in the end the people will seek the art of their own day, and not of yesterday. What we want is an interpretation of the beauty and meaning of our own world, and not of Gainsborough's world.

Mr. Morgan, in finance, created no wealth. He organized it. In art, he never understood creation. He organized its dust.

FOR THE CIRCUIT JUDGESHIP.

It is time for organized and single-minded work in Virginia if we expect to secure the appointment of a man from this State to the judgeship of the Sixth District Circuit. The honor is one to which we have many and legitimate claims, but in the face of careful and systematic work in behalf of candidates from other States, we must select a man, and get behind him with unanimous and vigorous endorsement, or the chance will be lost.

The matter will be closed in a few days. Judge Goff has declared that his resignation will be presented before Monday, when the special session of Congress assembles. The vacancy will be filled shortly thereafter. In West Virginia, one man has been recommended and for his success every effort has been centered. There is nothing scattered or sporadic in the campaign elsewhere. Congressional delegations, the bar, and friends have urged his claims. Virginia, on the other hand, has not concentrated for effective endeavor.

Yet Virginia should have this appointment. It would be a valuable asset for the State and for Richmond. It would make things easier for our lawyers and their clients. Virginia is the geographical centre of the surrounding States that form this circuit.

The Times-Dispatch urges the bar and lawyers generally to get behind one man, co-ordinate their forces and make a vigorous effort to secure for the Commonwealth what is a deserved honor and a valuable addition to our prestige and influence.

THE TIE THAT BINDS.

In spite of the publicity given numbers of other charges, it appears to be very difficult to discover whether the charges for that Washington telephone conversation were direct or reversed. But it is increasingly clear that it will be a good day for Virginia when that long-distance wire between Richmond and Washington is permanently cut.

BLOOD-SUCKING LOAN COMPANIES.

On this page is printed a letter detailing a single experience with the loan-sharks. As is often the case, it was a mirror who fell into the net. For the use of \$15 for a year, he would have had to pay \$23.14 interest. He would have still owed the principal.

This is merely a type case. The same extortion by usury taking advantage of folly or destitution is being practiced every day. We ask with the author of this letter, should such places be allowed to exist?

The law should be made strong enough to prevent such tragedy-producing bonds as are now given by poverty-driven men and women. If the law cannot completely remedy matters, then let us arouse public sentiment to provide the alleviation that other cities have found practicable—a loan company, organized by men of money and character for the benefit of the borrower and not for the unrighteous emolument of a private money-lender. The loan-shark could not exist unless he filled an economic need. The necessities of life among people who have no margin of income makes the temporary use of borrowed funds frequently necessary. The expenses of sickness and the bearing of children frequently cause the first journey to this new Mount of Piety. Would it not be wise policy from the community viewpoint to give worthy people a chance to borrow for times of stress at a just rate of interest? They need such facilities. It is not only philanthropy, but sound business to provide them in accordance with justice and honesty.

Others have succeeded with co-operative money-lending associations. Why not Richmond?

RICHMOND NEEDS SERVICE, TOO.

We are glad to praise John Skelton Williams in these words from the New York Press, and to draw from them a moral.

"What would be thought if a private financial concern could get a man distinguished for skill and experience in handling large and complicated interests to perform in a year a year's work on the order of the following functions of the Treasury Department: 'Supervising the Bureau of Internal Revenue, the Mint and Engraving and Printing, the divisions of Loans and Currency and of Public Money, the office of the Treasurer of the United States, Register of the Treasury, Comptroller of the Currency and the Secret Service.'

"That is what John Skelton Williams has undertaken to do for the United States government. He is willing to devote to the public service for a sum far less than he can command in private business, the ability which did so much in building up the Seaboard Air Line Railway, and in developing a variety of business projects that have

proved his mettle as a man of large affairs."

Richmond pays \$5,000 to the members of its Administrative Board. It does not, however, get services like this. Why?

Since the money is the same, and for men of this type practically negligible, the difference must be in the honor attaching to the position, and in the sense of achievement along broad lines felt by the man himself. For big men, honor is worthless unless justified by what the men feel is the value of the work. We are reduced to believing that working for Richmond is not important enough to tempt big men. The argument that they cannot be elected is foolish. When men of Mr. Williams' type offer to serve Richmond, they will be elected without any trouble.

Men of large affairs would probably think it preposterous that they should be cribbed, cabled and confined in Richmond. Yet in cold fact, it takes more intelligence, vision, energy, and character to help 130,000 people to find life clean and happy than to run any number of adding machine positions in the Treasury. Dealing in dollars is not nearly so hard as dealing in hearts and prejudices. Collecting the customs and running the Secret Service require tact and sense, but they are child's play compared to straightening out the delicate tangles of convention, selfishness, misguided pride, and bad education, that any group of citizens in Richmond can stir up when they want to get something done. To help Richmond requires courage and genius.

No, the truth is not that Mr. Williams and men of his kind are too big for this job, but that this kind of job is too big for them. Of course, it would be a better fit for them than for the kind of men we get now. Yet, the problems of social morals, public health, education, recreation, and community esthetics are certainly too big, too complex, and too fine for the abilities of our so-called big men. They are not trained for what real idealistic community building requires. They are trained for abstract business, dealing only with men (not women and children), and according to set rules. The business of dealing with human society made up of individual souls is incomparably more of a test of genius.

We are developing a class of men who find in this work the greatest chance for self-realization. Meanwhile, just for the business side, do not trained men owe Richmond a duty?

LA FOLLETTE'S REPUBLICANISM.

Discussing criticism of President Wilson for calling Senator La Follette to the White House for conference, the St. Louis Post-Dispatch reminds the critics that there are Republicans and Republicans just as there are Democrats and Democrats, so-called; and in describing what sort of Republican Senator La Follette happens to be, as shown by his record, the St. Louis contemporary says: "He is the Republican who has proved that under the presidency of Theodore Roosevelt the trusts increased from 149 to 16,620." He is the Republican who has charged that the panic of 1907 'was manufactured by Wall Street interests which bluffed Mr. Roosevelt into approval of the Tennessee Coal and Iron merger.' He is the Republican who has said more than once that 'Mr. Taft as President violated every true principle of his party.'"

Also, resumes the Post-Dispatch, he is a Republican who over and over again asserted that under the administrations of McKinley, Roosevelt and Taft "the financial control of American industry and commerce passed into the hands of fourteen men," whom he named.

The Post-Dispatch, therefore, is constrained to think that a Republican holding these views ought not only to be able to confer with President Wilson, but to co-operate with him, and we imagine it will find a good many very thoughtful persons inclined to think with it.

As a matter of fact, President Wilson would not, by the token of his own record, his public utterances before and since his nomination and election, be consistent if he did not confer with such Republicans as Senator La Follette, in seeking to attain the "New Freedom" for the nation. Personally and politically, he is pledged to utilize to this consummation all the constructive and reforming progressive forces he can command. Senator La Follette has a logical standing with President Wilson on the monopoly evil, apart from the consideration that he and the President are virtually of one mind as to the remedy by tariff revision.

"The spelling dox book of al rite, but we add to Mr. Carnegie's tributes by noting it," asks the Shylock Record Herald.

If Miss Sylvia Pankhurst were locked up in some Virginia prison we know of, we wouldn't blame her for refusing to eat.

For good eating, go to the Northern Neck. Last Monday week Harry Arnest caught a beautiful coon, two large and beautiful minks, two opossums and two muskrats, and Monday night another large coon. Doesn't it make your mouth water?

James Hamilton Lewis, the new Senator from Illinois, is the Great Unshaved.

The Department of Agriculture is perplexed as to an answer to the question, "What is sausage?" In Virginia it is a taste of paradise.

Now is the time for all good papas to come to the aid of the sons who would wed.

Sassafras tea is the thing for you this spring.

The weather man and the calendar are the only baseball holdouts left.



This smoke is always drifting upward. This is the waste from the furnace of money-making. Up they go, thousands and thousands of them, and no one knows their names, and no one cares.

MILL-DUST!

The mills of the gods grind slow, they say,
And grind exceedingly small. They may,
But how of the mills of the Prince of Doom

Where baby hands feed spindle and loom?
Could any devil be more unjust
Than to grind the soul of a child to dust?

—Wightman F. Melton.

On the Spur of the Moment

By Roy K. Moulton

Old Adam.
He didn't have a stylish wife. Who followed all of fashions fads. With rats and hobbie skirts and pads. She never begged her accounts. By running bills of large amounts. For willow plumes and four-foot hats. And fancy high-heeled shoes and spats. And evening gowns of texture fair. She wore no jewels in her hair. She never had a desire to skip. To Europe for a summer trip. In social realms she didn't shine. And never had to stand in line. At swell receptions dressed to kill. There was no unpaid modest bill. Though like all women everywhere. She never skulked about that fact. But got along with wondrous fact. The servant problem peeved her not. She never worried over her lot. Or caused a single family jar. Because she had no touring car. And last, but not the least to note. She didn't even want to vote.

According to Uncle Abner.
By the time a feller finally finds out the best kind of fuel to use in

Abe Martin



"The early shipments of hammocks are very effective, but if you're afraid to buy now on account of future regret you may wait until June first. When curbs remember that a real knuckle at thirty cents don't go half as far as a real shank at fifteen cents.

his furnace his furnace is worn out and he has to start all over again. There are worse habits than smoking cigarettes, undoubtedly, but I can't think what they are.

There ain't nobody as wise as a feller who has been to New York once. A feller will kick about a 25-cent meat bill, but will pay a \$25 automobile bill without a murmur.

There is only one thing better than workin' for fame and that is workin' for money.

A feller who throws his snow shovel away before the Fourth of July is one of our most famous goats.

Elihu Tibbitts says he wishes the Easter hares didn't come so close after the winter taxes.

Taze Butts of Unit 4,576, Zone 115, is here visiting his cousin, Hank Tumms, of Unit 2,982, Zone 111.

A feller might as well buy a 10-cent seegar in the first place. When he buys a nickel seegar it takes a nickel's worth of matches to keep it goin'.

A feller always refers to his automobile as 'her' becuz it is so expensive.

One of the principal corps of Mexico is ex-presidents.

What Has Become of These.
The folding rack that used to hang in the hall.

The old-fashioned couples who used to go out buxxy riding.

The folks who used to eat dinner in the middle of the day.

The good old lady in steel-trimmed eyeglasses who used to make crullers and put up yarb tea.

Those student lumps that used to adorn every home.

The whatnot that stood in the corner and held everything from a Chinese idol to a case of wax flowers.

The cravat portraits that used to hang in the parlor.

The foot scraper that used to be seen on every front stoop.

Those brilliantly painted lambr-quins.

The old-fashioned weather prophet who had a pet corn.

Voice of the People

How Loan Sharks Work.
To the Editor of The Times-Dispatch: Sir,—Some time ago your paper took a very active interest in exposing what

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THE MARKET PLACE OF THE SOUTH

is known as loan sharks, and if I am not mistaken employed a lawyer in prosecuting them, and you did a good work. For a time some check was put on these dishonest grafters, but it seems that they are still doing business here and robbing the people. I will relate an experience I have just had with one of them, and I will thank you to publish the same, that others may take warning and keep away from these concerns.

There is a place located at 523 E. Broad Street, second floor, which is known as the Guarantee or Capital Loan Co., being conducted by a man by the name of Thompson. A son of mine, who is a minor, borrowed (unknowing to me) \$15. He was required to sign three notes for \$5.00 each, payable in one, two and three months, making the total interest \$5.85, or 39 cents on a dollar for the three months' loan, or \$23.40 interest on the \$15 for twelve months.

Now, Mr. Editor, I ask you should the authorities allow such places to exist? These concerns, by distributing their advertisements from house to house, put temptations in the way of young men that they would never think of. When I found out that my son had borrowed this money, I consulted a lawyer, and found out the money could not be made, as in law a minor's signature is not legal, but I being an honest man and wanting my children to be honest, went to see this man Thompson, and after telling him very plainly of his dishonesty and thods, which he did not resent, I paid him the \$15 borrowed and 50 cents interest, which was more than he was entitled to, and he was glad enough to settle on those terms, knowing he could make nothing in law.

While I am not signing my name to this communication for publication, you have it, and you are at liberty to give it to any one who wants it. I have all the evidence, and I am prepared to prove every statement I have made. By publishing this you will show this concern up, and be doing the public a service by doing so.

CITIZEN.

More Praise for Governor Mann

The Curtain Falls on the Hillville tragedy.

As the curtain goes down on the Allen cases we cannot refrain from once more commending the Governor of Virginia for his steadiness, firmness and high sense of duty displayed in the final consideration of these matters.

The Marvel of Our Juries.

Considering the amount of maudlin sentiment that can be stirred up in Virginia, the wonder is that the courts are able to secure such good juries.

Durham Herald.

The National State and City Bank

invites you to open an account either subject to check or at 3% interest in its Savings Department.

CAPITAL and SURPLUS \$1,600,000.00